



GRAIN TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Agricultural Marketing Service
United States Department of Agriculture

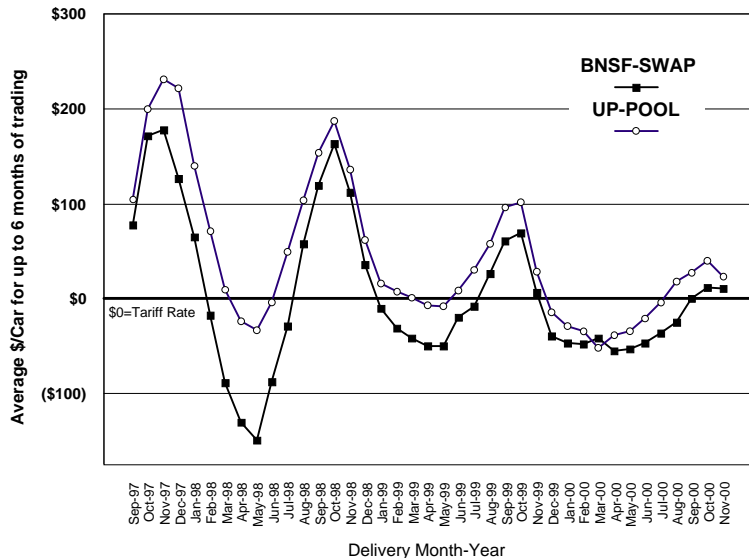


JUNE 6, 2000

June 5-7	Corn Utilization & Technology Conf.	St. Paul, MN	Jennifer Snyder 202-331-1634 (ph) jsnyder@corn.org
June 5-8	3 rd Agricultural Biotechnology Int'l Conference (ABIC 2000)	Toronto, Ont., Canada	Sharon Murray 877-925-2242 (ph) 877-333-2242 (fax) siggroup@sk.sympatico.ca
June 14-16	International Grains Conference, IGC2000 Conference	Regina, Sask., Can	306-708-8805 (ph) 306-780-7360 (fax) igc2000@em.agr.ca
June 18-22	117 th American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) Convention	San Francisco, CA	202-638-3128 (ph) 202-638-3171 (fax)
June 19-20	2000 Legislative & Leadership Conf. of the Ag. Transporters Conference (ATC)	Washington, DC	Fletcher Hall 703-838-7999 (ph)
June 19-21	Assessment of Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway Navigation System Feasibility Study	Washington, DC	202-334-3422 (ph) 202-334-1961 (fax) jjacobs@nas.edu
June 25-28	International Food & Agribusiness Management Association	Chicago, IL	409-845-2118 (ph) 409-862-1487 (fax) iama@tamu.edu
June 26-27	Global Trade & Consumer Demand For Quality	Montreal, Quebec, Can.	Laura Bipes 612-625-1757 (ph) 612-625-6245 (fax) lbipes@dept.agecon.umn.edu
July 21	Ag. Transportation Coalition Annual Meeting (USDA/AgOTC)	San Francisco, CA	202-467-8380 (ph)
July 23-26	Conference on Transportation & Environment for the 21 st Century	Pittsburgh, PA	202-334-2934 (ph) 202-334-2003 (fax)
July 23-26	U.S. Grains Council 40 th Annual Board of Directors Meeting	Chicago, IL	202-789-0789 (ph) 202-898-0522 (fax) grains@grains.org
Aug. 8	American Institute For Shippers Assoc. (AISA/USDA Export Excellence Seminar	Napa, CA	Glen Cella 202-628-0933 (ph) www.shippers.org
Sept. 27-29	National Waterways Conference	St. Louis, MO	202-296-4415 (ph)

Report is prepared by Karl Hacker, Agricultural Economist, Transportation & Marketing, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA (202) 690-1304. Report design by Kimberly Vachal, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, North Dakota State University. You can retrieve this document from our Automatic Fax System by using the handset on your fax machine and dialing (202) 690-1707. This report can be found on the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/tmd/grain.htm. E-mail comments to GTR@usda.gov.

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Rail Car 'Auction' Offerings

Delivery for:	Jun-00			
	<u>Offered</u>	<u>% Sold</u>	<u>Offered</u>	<u>% Sold</u>
BNSF-COT	12,000	32%	12,000	75%
UP-GCAS	5,400	2%	5,400	10%

Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA; www.bnsf.com; www.uprr.com

Secondary Rail Car Market

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Week

	Delivery Period			
	Jun-00	Jul-00	Aug-00	Sep-00
BNSF-GF	\$(65)	\$(23)	\$(2)	\$16
UP-Pool	\$(49)	\$(18)	\$8	\$18

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from Atwood/ConAgra., Harvest States Co-op, James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.;

GF=Guaranteed Freight, GEEP=Guaranteed Eqpt. Exchange, Pool=Guaranteed Pool

note... bids listed are market INDICATORS only & are NOT guaranteed prices, missing value=No Bid Quoted

Railroad Car 'Auction' Results

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Auction

Delivery for:	Jul-00	Aug-00	Sep-00
COT/N. Grain	no bid	no bid	no bid
COT/S. Grain	no bid	no bid	no bid
GCAS/Region 2	no bid	no bid	no bid
GCAS/Region 4	no bid	no bid	no bid

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from www.bnsf.com, www.uprr.com,
(COT=Certificate of Transportation; GCAS=Grain Car Allocation System)**Southbound Barge Freight Nominal Values**

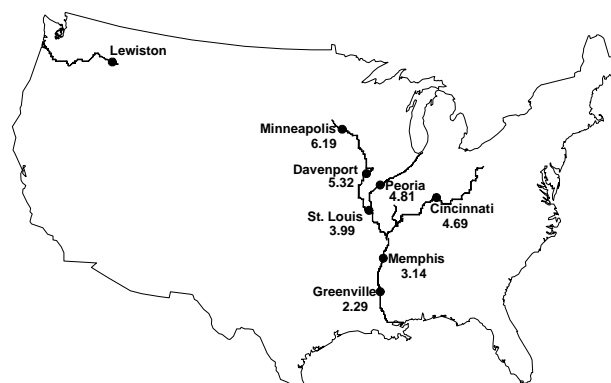
Index=Percent of Tariff, Based on 1976 Tariff Benchmark Rate

Week ended	River/Region	Contract Period	Rate	
			Bid	Offer
6/6/00	Illinois River St. Louis	twk	115	-
		twk	-	110
		Oct	-	220
		Jan	110	-
	Mid Miss Twin Cities	twk	135	-
		twk	160	165

Summary Of Daily Barge Trades Reported To St. Louis Merchants Exchange.

Southbound Barge Freight Spot Rates

	5/31/00	5/24/00	June '00	Aug '00
Twin Cities	163	170	176	210
Mid-Mississippi	133	140	147	179
Illinois River	119	122	140	168
St. Louis	102	107	116	156
Lower Ohio	108	108	121	161
Cairo-Memphis	103	104	113	145

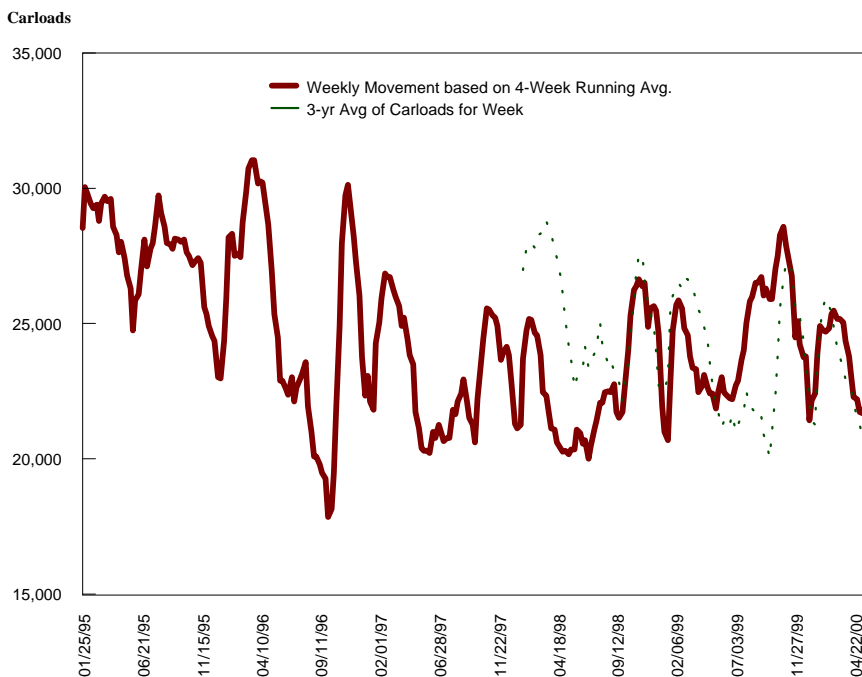
Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA
nq=no quote**Barge Benchmark Tariff Rates
Est. 1976 - 'Tariff No. 7'**

Grain Car Loadings for Class I Railroads

Class I Railroad Grain Car Loadings	
Week Ending:	Carloads
5/13/00	21,846
5/20/00	22,598
5/27/00	22,269
Year to Date - 2000	500,837
Year to Date - 1999	495,309
Total 1999	1,269,741

**1998 - 52 weeks

* 1997 - 53 weeks



Class I Rail Carrier Grain Car Bulletin

Carloads

	Conrail	CSXT	East IC	NS	BNSF	West KCS	UP	Canada CN	CP
05/27/00	0	2,890	1,535	3,066	7,394	453	6,931	2,122	4,584
This Week Last Year	476	2,332	1,831	3,014	7,687	577	7,248	2,246	4,484
2000 YTD	0	60,244	37,420	61,946	167,300	12,275	161,652	57,859	94,013
1999 YTD	15,417	52,307	32,301	54,636	167,713	15,316	157,619	43,948	70,360
1999 Total	15,522	132,157	88,056	138,379	465,088	33,911	398,262	121,381	206,328
1998 Total	40,192	126,128	77,811	131,158	431,459	34,503	342,609	113,568	215,005

Source: Association of American Railroads

**1998 - 52 weeks

* 1997 - 53 weeks

Tariff Rail Rates for Unit Train Shipments

June 2000

Date Effective	Tariff Item	Commodity	Origin	Destination	Rate Per Car	Rate Per MT	Rate/Per Bushel*
06/05/00	45560	Wheat	Minneapolis, MN	Houston, TX	\$2,050	\$22.60	\$0.62
06/05/00	43521	Wheat	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$3,877	\$42.74	\$1.16
06/05/00	46540	Wheat	Kansas City, MO	Houston, TX	\$1,550	\$17.09	\$0.47
06/05/00	43586	Wheat	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	\$4,133	\$45.56	\$1.24
06/05/00	43581	Wheat	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$3,805	\$41.94	\$1.14
06/05/00	31040	Corn	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$3,000	\$33.07	\$0.84
06/05/00	31035	Corn	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	\$2,600	\$28.66	\$0.73
06/05/00	31040	Corn	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$2,615	\$28.82	\$0.73
06/05/00	61180	Soybean	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$2,880	\$31.75	\$0.86
06/05/00	61180	Soybean	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$2,480	\$27.34	\$0.74
05/01/98	61180	Soybean	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$2,780	\$25.23	\$0.83

Source: www.bnsf.com

Approximate load per car = 100 tons: Corn 56 lbs/bu, Wheat & Soybeans 60 lbs/bu

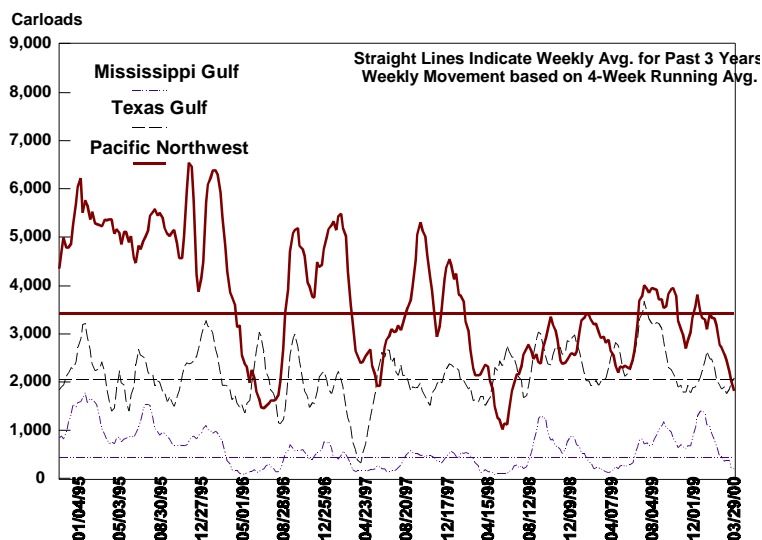
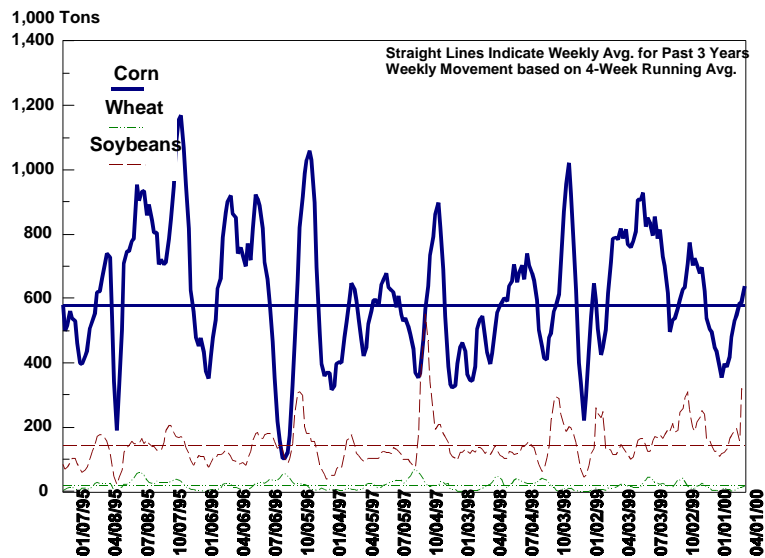
Rail Deliveries to Port

Carloads

	Mississippi Gulf	Texas Gulf	Pacific Northwest	Atlantic & East Gulf
Week Ending:				
04/19/00	639	2,090	2,710	273
04/26/00	302	1,940	2,385	233
05/03/00	402	1,508	2,139	76
05/10/00	206	1,932	1,666	119
05/17/00	40*	2,518	1,895	50
05/24/00	169*	2,400	1,593*	153
YTD 2000	15,796*	44,219	60,605*	6,987
YTD 1999	9,368	49,710	61,364	7,064
Total 1998	23,844	115,321	138,461	12,505
Total 1997	20,152	93,265	195,953	9,147

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA

* Incomplete Data

Rail Deliveries to Port**Barge Movements - Locks 27****Barge Grain Movements**

for week ending 5/27/00

	Corn	Wht	Sybn	Total
1,000 Tons				
Mississippi River				
Rock Island, IL (L15)	302	12	30	345
Winfield, MO (L25)	456	14	81	551
Alton, IL (L26)	671	22	158	869
Granite City, IL (L27)	739	14	171	943
Illinois River (L8)	146	6	40	211
Ohio (L52)	21	10	11	63
Arkansas (L1)	0	11	7	18
2000 YTD	12,740	755	3,732	17,990
1999 YTD	13,705	954	2,916	19,003
Total 1999	36,711	2,883	9,771	51,887
Total 1998	31,001	2,401	8,674	45,134

Miss YTD: Calendar year totals include Miss/27, Ohio/52 and Ark/1.
Source: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

U.S. Export Balances (1,000 Metric Tons)

	<i>HRW</i>	<i>SRW</i>	<i>HRS</i>	<u>Wheat</u> <i>SWW</i>	<i>DUR</i>	<i>All</i>	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Soybean</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Unshipped Exports-Crop Year</u>									
05/25/00	955	615	819	564	176	3,129	7,400	2,395	12,924
This Week Year Ago	1,255	362	970	394	190	3,171	8,460	2,209	13,840
<u>Cumulative Exports-Crop Year</u>									
99/00 YTD	10,491	4,160	5,511	3,914	984	25,060	35,823	22,428	83,311
98/99 YTD	10,168	2,502	6,415	5,283	988	25,356	34,755	17,713	77,824
97/98 Total	9,858	4,710	6,305	5,413	1,232	27,518	37,220	24,516	89,254
96/97 Total	7,387	3,645	7,864	6,105	963	25,965	44,476	24,501	94,942

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service YTD-Year-to-Date (www.fas.usda.gov) Crop Year:Wheat=5/31-6/01, Corn & Soybeans=9/01-8/31**Select U.S. Port Regions - Gain Inspections for Export - 1,000 Metric Tons**

	<u>Pacific Region</u>			<u>Mississippi Gulf</u>			<u>Texas Gulf</u>		
	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>
06/01/00	187	123	11	99	469	153	231	20	43
2000 YTD	3,969	3,205	673	2,560	13,837	7,920	2,619	169	772
1999 YTD *	4,406	3,217	103	2,593	13,856	6,290	2,990	272	676
% of Last Year	37%	73%	103%	51%	44%	53%	36%	30%	55%
1998 Total	10,838	4,373	651	5,048	31,330	14,917	7,270	562	1,392

Source: Federal Grain Inspection Service * YTD-Year-to-Date (*98 = 53 week period)

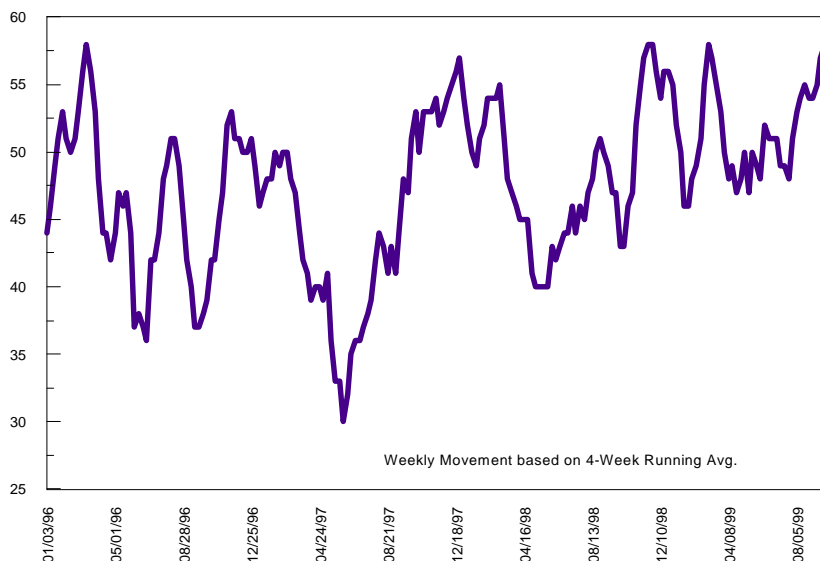
Select Canadian Ports - Export Inspections

1,000 Metric Tons, Crop Year

	<u>Wheat</u>	<u>Durum</u>	<u>Barley</u>
Week Ended: 6/01/00			
Vancouver	4,937	721	773
Prince Rupert	3,167	3	109
Prairie Direct	907	235	353
Thunder Bay	642	288	218
St. Lawrence	2,281	1,548	0
1999 YTD Exports	11,934	2,795	1,458
1998 YTD Exports	8,506	2,954	828
% of Last Year	140%	95%	176%

Source: Canadian Grains Commission
YTD-Year-to-Date Crop Year 8/1-7/31

Vessels



**Gulf Region
Vessels Loaded
- Past 7 Days-**

Port Region Ocean Grain Vessels

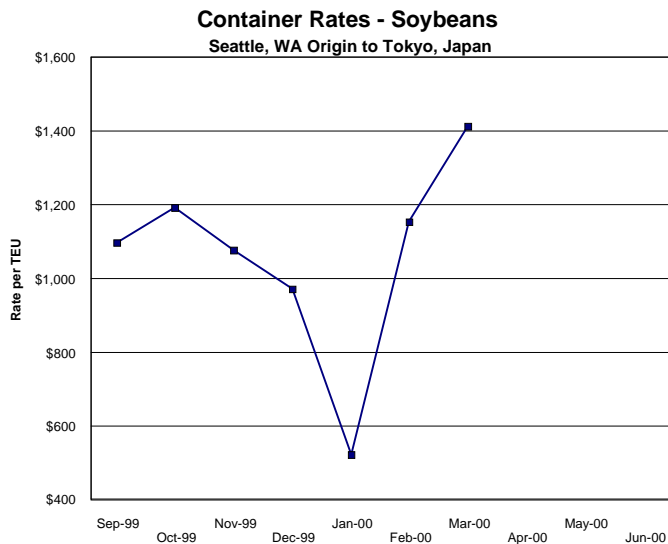
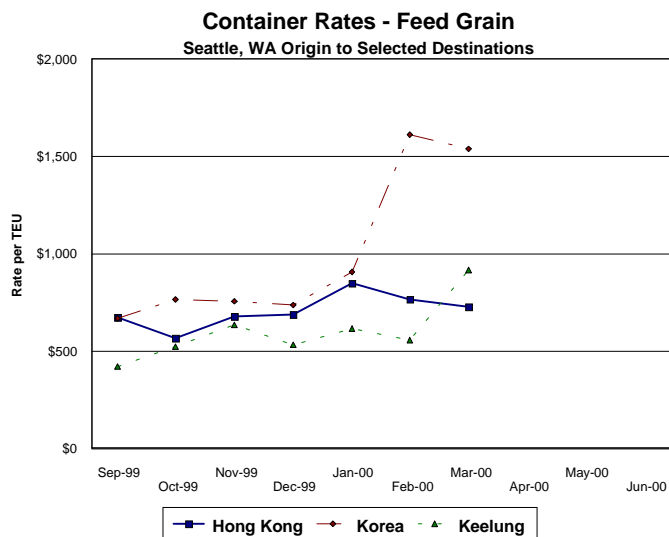
	Gulf			Pacific Northwest			Vancouver, B.C.		
	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>
05/25/00	27	42	58	10			10	11	0
06/01/00	23	43	56	11			6	7	3
1999 Range	(14..47)	(39..65)	(34..80)	(6..18)			(2..20)	(2..15)	(0..9)
1998 Range	(19..62)	(34..64)	(40..93)				(1..19)	(3..14)	(0..10)
1999 Avg	32	52	65				9	9	3
1998 Avg	40	48	61				10	9	3
1997 Avg	33	45	58						

Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/ USDA

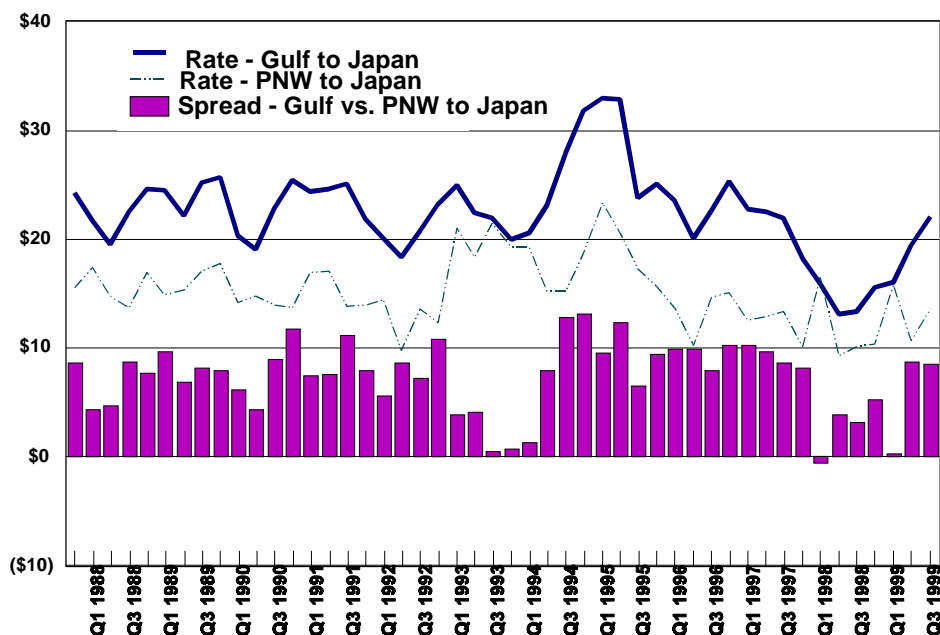
Container Ocean Freight Rates

Monthly Weighted Averages Based on Shipping Line Monthly Mkt. Share

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA



US\$/Metric Ton



Quarterly Ocean Freight Rates

Quarterly Ocean Freight Rates

Average Rates & Percentage Changes, U.S. Dollars/Metric Ton - Basis

	2000 1 st Qtr	1999 1 st Qtr	% Change		2000 1 st Qtr	1999 1 st Qtr	% Change
Gulf to				Pacific NW to			
Japan	\$19.46	\$13.17	48%	Japan	\$10.71	\$9.35	15%
Mexico	\$14.97	\$16.33	-8%	Red Sea/ Arabian Sea			
Venezuela	\$12.64	\$10.30	23%				
N. Europe	\$13.31	\$8.85	50%	Argentina to			
N. Africa	\$18.20	\$13.87	31%	N. Europe	\$13.94	\$12.15	15%
				Japan	\$23.00	\$16.21	42%

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA; (*) rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs.=one metric ton)

Ocean Freight Rates (Select Locations) - week ending 6/3/00

Export Region	Import Region	Grain	Month	Volume Loaded (Tons)	Freight Rate (\$/Ton)
Pt. Cartier (Can.)	China	Heavy Grain	Jun4/10	55,000	\$21.35
Vancouver (Can.)	Algeria	Wheat	June	30,000	\$34.50
Tampa	Lisbon/Hamburg	Grains	May30/Jun5	20,000	\$16.75
Gulf	Egypt (Med.)	Wheat	Jun5/10	55,000	\$15.75
Gulf	Philippines	Meals	Jun5/15	55,000	\$23.00
Brazil	Lisbon/Hamburg	Grains	May27/Jun2	31,000	\$18.75
So. Brazil	E. Mediterranean	Grains	Prompt	22,000	\$21.00
Brazil	Thailand	Grains	Jun15/20	50,000	\$22.00
Brazil	China	Heavy Grain	Jun12/20	55,000	\$23.50
Rio Grande (Brazil)	China	Meals	Jun8/14	58,000	\$23.75

Source: Maritime Research Inc.; rates shown are for long ton (2,240 lbs.=one long ton), F.O.B., except where otherwise indicated; op=option